

Message Text

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54

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 261825Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3305

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1704

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, GY

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF PPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO 19TH
PARTY CONGRESS

SUMMARY: GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE OPPOSITION, MOSCOW-LINE
PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY (PPP) CHEDDI JAGAN, DELIVERED THE
REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO THE PARTY'S 19TH CONGRESS ON
JULY 31, 1976. THE REPORT'S THRUST WAS THE PPP'S USUAL PRO-COMMU-
NIST (USSR) AND ANTI-CAPITALIST (US) LINE. IT CONCENTRATED ON
THE FAILURES OF THE RULING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL CONGRESS (PNC).
THE PNC WAS ATTACKED AS PURSUING STATE CAPITALIST, RATHER THAN
MARXIST-LENINIST POLICIES. THE PNC GOVT, IT ALSO ALLEGED WAS
REVISIONIST AND UTOPIAN, AND, CONSEQUENTLY, INEFFICIENT AND UNJUST.
THE REPORT FAILS, HOWEVER, TO ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE ISSUES OF
GREATEST CONCERN TO PPP SUPPORTERS WHO ARE GENERALLY NON-COMMUNIST
EAST INDIANS, SUSPICIOUS OF THE PARTY'S "CRITICAL SUPPORT" OF
THE BLACK-DOMINATED PNC. END SUMMARY.

1. THE EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED A COPY OF THE REPORT OF THE PPP'S
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CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO THE PARTY'S 19TH CONGRESS AS DELIVERED BY

THE PARTY'S GENERAL SECRETARY CHEDDI JAGAN ON JULY 31, 1976. A COPY OF THE 41 PAGE DOCUMENT IS BEING POUCHED TO ARA/CAR.

2. THE REPORT BEGINS WITH THE EXPECTED LAVISH PRAISE OF THE SOVIET UNION AND "SOCIALIST" SYSTEMS IN GENERAL. IT GOES ON TO CONDEMN THE WHITE-MINORITY REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, US AND CHINESE ACTIONS IN ANGOLA, ISRAEL'S RAID ON ENTEBBE AND ITS OCCUPATION OF ARAB LANDS, TURKISH INTERVENTION IN CYPRUS, AND MENTIONS OTHER INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, USUALLY IN AN ANTI-US COMMENTARY.

3. THE REPORT'S MAJOR CRITICISM, HOWEVER, IS RESERVED FOR THE RULING PNC. JAGAN DESCRIBES THE PRESENT GOVT AS LACKING A TRUE MARXIST-LENINIST ORIENTATION AND, AS A RESULT, OF BEING INEFFICIENT AND UNJUST. TO JAGAN, THE GOG IS ESSENTIALLY STATE CAPITLIST IN NATURE. HE REVIEWS THE LOCAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AN ATTEMPT TO PROVE HIS CHARGES AND TO SHOW THAT THINGS ARE NOT AS GOOD AS THEY SHOULD BE AND, IN SOME CASES (AND FOR SOME PEOPLE-- I.E. THE PPP'S EAST INDIAN SUPPORTERS) CONSIDERABLY WORSE THAN UNDER THE OLD PPP GOVT.

4. IN DISCUSSING DOMESTIC POLITICS, THE REPORT CLAIMS THAT THE PNC WAS FORCED INTO ITS PRESENT "ANTI-IMPERIALIST" STANCE BY VARIOUS OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS (WORLDWIDE PRESSURES FOR A MORE EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH) AND SUBJECTIVE FACTORS (PM BURNHAM'S OWN SENTIMENTS AND THE NATURE AND POSITION OF THE PNC). JAGAN ALSO DEFENDS HIS PARTY'S POLICY OF "CRITICAL SUPPORT" AND WARNS AGAINST COUNTER-REVOLUTION AND DESTABILIZATION FROM THE RIGHT.

5. THE GENERAL SECRETARY DISCOUNTS ARMED INTERVENTION BY THE VENEZUELAN (WHOM HE CONSIDERS TO BE FELLOW ANTI-IMPERIALISTS), BUT DOES NOT RULE OUT US-BACKED BRAZILIAN OR SURINAMESE AGGRESSION AGAINST GUYANA.

6. THE REPORT CONCLUDES WITH A CLAIM OF PPP LEGITIMACY AS THE SOLE, AUTHENTICALLY REVOLUTIONARY VANGUARD OF THE WORKING CLASS CAPABLE OF ESTABLISHING A TRULY "SOCIALIST" GUYANA. IN THIS REGARD, IT CALLS FOR, AMONG OTHER THINGS EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL GUYANESE, THE STRENGTHENING OF "PATRIOTIC AND POPULAR" ARMED FORCES TO DEFEND THE PROGRESSIVE ACHIEVEMENTS ALREADY OBTAINED, AND COMPREHENSIVE LAND REFORM.

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7. COMMENT: THE PNC'S SOCIALIST RHETORIC AND ITS NATIONALIZATION OF MAJOR FOREIGN FIRMS HAS STOLEN NOT ONLY JAGAN'S THUNDER, BUT ALSO MOST OF HIS CLOUD AS WELL. THE PPP, THEREFORE, HAS BEEN FORCED TO NARROW ITS CRITICISM TO MORE SPECIFIC ISSUES WHICH SOMETIMES SEEM TRITE. JAGAN'S CHARGES AGAINST THE PNC OF MARXIST-LENINIST HERESY, WHILE TRUE, ARE RELATIVELY INEFFECTIVE SINCE THE MAJORITY OF THE PPP'S OWN SUPPORTERS ARE NON-COMMUNISTS THEMSELVES WHO BACK THE

PPP FOR RACIAL RATHER THAN IDEOLOGICAL REASONS.

8. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE REPORT, WHILE UNDOUBTEDLY PLEASING TO ORTHODOX PARTY (AND SOVIET) IDEOLOGUES, FAILS TO SUFFICIENTLY ADDRESS THE DOMESTIC ISSUES OF GREATEST CONCERN TO THE MAJORITY OF PPP SUPPORTERS, SUCH AS RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, INEQUALITY OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, AND NATIONAL SERVICE. MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT DOES LITTLE TO ALLAY THEIR SUSPICIONS OF "CRITICAL SUPPORT" AS A BETRAYAL OF THEIR (EAST INDIAN) INTERESTS VIS-A-VIS THOSE OF THE BLACK-DOMINATED PNC. THIS FAILURE COULD LEAD TO EVEN FURTHER EROSION OF PPP STRENGTH.
BLACKEN

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